# GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
# HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE
# LOK SABHA

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:1738
ANSWERED ON:28.11.2001
EXPENDITURE ON HEALTH CARE
SULTAN SALAHUDDIN OWAISI

**Will the Minister of HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE be pleased to state:**

(a) whether the Government expenditure on health care as a percentage of GDP has been declining Plan after Plan whereas the health care needs have steadily grown up over the years;

(b) if so, the facts thereof;

(c) whether as per the guidelines of WHO, the expenditure on health care should be 5% of the GDP;

(d) if so, the present expenditure on health care of GDP;

(e) whether fund constraints is the main cause for the lower allocation of plan outlay for the health;

(f) if so, whether Government propose to increase the total plan outlay for the health care in the coming years; and
(g) if so, the steps taken/being taken in this regard?

## Answer

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT (PROF. RITA VERMA)

(a) & (b) There is no decline in the proportion of outlays for the health sector as percentage of total plan outlay over the different plans and infact there has been an increase in this percentage in the Ninth Plan when compared to the Eighth Plan in order to take care of the growing health care needs of the population. As a percentage of GDP, however, public health investment in the country has declined from 1.3% in 1990 to 0.9% in 1999.

(c) & (d) Yes, Sir. As per WHO guidelines expenditure on health care should be 5% of GDP.As per World Health Report, 2000 health expenditure in the country as percentage of GDP has been approximately 5.2% around 1997.

(e) to (g) The Central Government has been making every effort to increase its contribution to the public health expenditure.The overall plan outlay in the health sector in the Ninth Five Year Plan has been 4.01% of the total plan outlay as compared to 3.24% during during the 8th Five Year Plan. The Draft National Health Policy - 2001 envisages to increase health sector expenditure from 5.2% of GDP with 0.9%. Government contribution to 6% of GDP with 2% from Government by 2010.The resources for public investment in health sector are also being augmented by securing assistance from various bi-lateral and multi-lateral agencies for implementation of various disease control programmes. Health infrastructure in certain States has also been upgraded with World Bank assistance.